

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claims 3-7, 9-31, 33-54, 56-59, 62-71, 74-75, 77-78, 81-83, 86-93, 95-98, and 101-106 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 32, 34-37, 43, 55-61, 72-74, 76, 77, 84-86, 91-101, and 104-106 stand rejected.

Claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16-31, 33, 38-42, 44-54, 62-71, 75, 78-83, 87-90, 102, and 103 stand objected to.

Claims 3, 6, 9-10, 29, 33-35, 37-38, 43-45, 52-53, 56-59, 62-63, 70, 74-75, 77-78, 81, 83, 86-89, 91, 95, 101-102, and 104 are hereby amended.

Claims 1-2, 8, 32, 55, 60-61, 72-73, 76, 79-80, 84-85, 94, and 99-100 are hereby canceled.

Applicants hereby request further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application.

Specification Amendments

The specification has been amended to include the serial number of the application identified in paragraph [0001] of the application. No new matter is contained in this amendment.

Formal Drawings

Formal drawings are included with the present amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 10, 12, 13, 15, 32, 34-37, 43, 55-61, 72-74, 76, 77, 84-86, 91-101, and 104-106 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Ledent* (U.S. 4,209,065). In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 32, 34, 37, 43, 55-

61, 72-74, 84-86, 91-101, and 104-106 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Zisk* (U.S. 6,622,794). The Examiner stated that claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16-31, 33, 38-42, 44-54, 62-71, 75, 78-83, 87-90, 102, and 103 were allowable over the prior art, but objected to the same claims as being dependent on rejected base claims. As such, the Applicants have amended claims 6, 9, 44, 45, 62, 63, 70, 75, 78, 81, 83, 87, 89, and 102 to incorporate the subject matter of the base claims to make the same claims independent, thereby placing claims 6, 9, 44, 45, 62, 63, 70, 75, 78, 81, 83, 87, 89, and 102 in a condition for allowance. Claims 3, 10, 29, 33-35, 37, 38, 43, 52, 53, 56-59, 74, 77, 86, 88, 91, 95, 101, and 104 have been amended to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner in the preceding office action and to correct the claim dependencies resulting from the amendments to claims 6, 9, 44, 45, 62, 63, 70, 75, 78, 81, 83, 87, 89, and 102. Consequently, claims 3-7, 9-31, 33-54, 56-59, 62-71, 74, 75, 77, 78, 81-83, 86-93, 95-98, and 101-106 are in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the rejections and objections is respectfully requested by Applicant. No new matter is introduced by way of the amendment. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the Office Action dated August 2, 2005 has been fully addressed. If any fee is due as a result of the filing of this paper, please appropriately charge such fee to Deposit Account Number 50-1515 of Conley Rose, P.C., Texas. If a petition for extension of time is necessary in order for this paper to be deemed timely filed, please consider this a petition therefore.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the resolution of any issue or expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

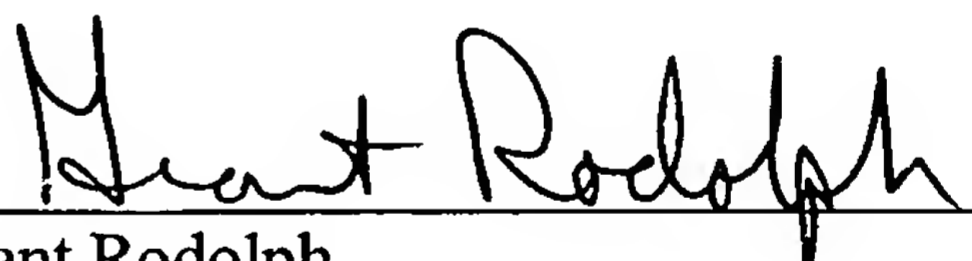
Respectfully submitted,

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

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10/31/05

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